

News from the

**U.S. Senate Committee on
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions**

Michael B. Enzi (Wyoming), Chairman



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***QUALITY MATH AND SCIENCE TRAINING FOR STUDENTS KEY
TO AMERICA'S GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS, ENZI SAYS***

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R- WY), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP Committee) said today more work must be done to ensure American students receive the training in math and science we will need as a nation if we are to continue to be a leader in the world's marketplace.

"We are at a point where we need to look at the next step, and figure out how to support an education system that will improve math and science outcomes into the future," Enzi said Wednesday, during a hearing of the HELP Subcommittee on Education and Early Childhood Development. "Our ability to develop strong foundations now will pay off for years to come as we face stronger competition globally."

"Over the past 10 years, this country has paid significant attention to math and science education, and some reports suggest we're on the right track," Enzi added. "However, we still have a lot of ground to cover. The nations leading in math and science are quickly becoming our biggest competitors in the international economy. Korea, Hong Kong and Japan continue to outperform the United States on math and science achievement in most studies, as do many nations in Europe."

Wednesday's hearing, "Protecting America's Competitive Edge Act (PACE), S. 2198: Helping K-12 Students Learn Math and Science Better," is the second of two subcommittee hearings on the PACE Act. The hearing focused on encouraging and promoting the natural curiosity children have about fields like math, science, engineering, health, technology, and foreign languages.

Enzi is now working with the Subcommittee's Chairman, Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), and Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), as well as other HELP Committee members to improve the quality of math and science education, increase the high school graduation rate, and develop the abilities of students to successfully enter either postsecondary education or the workforce.

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